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Copy 3 of 3

5 June 1956

Dear Monroe:

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I am sending you this date a memorandum which is self-explanatory [REDACTED]-0354). I hope the project to which it refers will be welcome to your drivers.

I am taking the occasion to write you this note on another matter on which I want to make a most informal suggestion to you. As the troubled history of the last two weeks makes all too clear, there will be a good many occasions when you will have to be absent from your operating base, wherever it may be, for such purposes as consultation with military commanders, the examination of facilities, and the like. I believe you should give careful consideration to the scope of activities by your organization in your absence. My own feeling is that local [REDACTED] (with a rather liberal definition of what is meant by local) present no problem if the Operations Officer is on hand. Long [REDACTED] covering safe territory should not be undertaken, it would seem to me, unless your Operations Officer at least is on hand and I hope it will not be necessary for you to be absent very often when such activities are in progress. I am sure you will agree with me that you should make every effort to be on hand when full-scale operations are to be carried on.

It may be that there have been times since your arrival there when some such rule as the above could not be complied with, in particular, I remember at least two occasions when you, Phil and Elmer were all attending meetings away from your base and when some local activity may have gone forward. If so, no harm has been done and such things could not be prevented in this rather troubled period but when I consider the complications involved in handling securely even a mild emergency, I want to be sure that a senior officer is on hand.

The whole matter will become easier when the one remaining slot that calls for a senior officer on your T/O is filled. Also, when you finally get settled and shaken down, everyone will know his job better. In the meanwhile, I would suggest the above procedure, subject, of course, to your own comments.

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My warmest personal regards. I look forward to seeing you again before too long.

Yours,

Richard M. Bissell, jr

RMB:djm

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1-Addressee - CO/ [REDACTED]

2-RMB Chrono

3-Project Chrono - filed in Pro.Dir. Files in Admin

Card on file in RI

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